

APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR THRUST SENSING VALVES

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and methods for thrust sensing valves are disclosed. In one embodiment,
5 an apparatus includes a housing including an input port and an output port and further having
a mounting portion adapted to be coupled to a manufacturing tool. A supply member is
operatively coupled to the housing to provide a flow of the pressurized medium into the input
port of the housing. Finally, an elongated body is operatively coupled to the housing and
moveable along an axis between a first position corresponding to a first pressure output from
10 the housing and a second position corresponding to a second pressure output from the
housing. The elongated body is biased into the first position and moveable into the second
position in the presence of a thrust force on the mounting portion.

15